



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OCT 11 2025

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 629 without my signature.

This bill would, among other things, create a newly defined post-wildfire safety area designation and would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to include new criteria when mapping Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs).

Wildfire risk and hazard modeling are crucial tools for informing wildfire mitigation strategies and allocating resources to prevent ignitions and effectively respond to wildfires before they become catastrophic. Since 2019, my Administration, in partnership with the Legislature, has invested over \$5 billion in wildfire mitigation, response, and forest resilience. All of which have been guided by leading-edge science and modeling, with most of it developed right here in California.

I remain strongly supportive of this work and the work of OSFM to enhance its modeling capabilities and maintain updated, robust FHSZs to further inform wildfire mitigation measures. This work is actively underway, and though I find this bill's intent laudable, it presents new, ongoing, and significant costs to the state not accounted for in this year's budget.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

